

(v) Outer packagings of plastic materials must be constructed in accordance with the relevant provisions of paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(5) Any integral pallet base forming part of an intermediate bulk container, or any detachable pallet, must be suitable for the mechanical handling of an intermediate bulk container filled to its maximum permissible gross mass.

(i) The pallet or integral base must be designed to avoid protrusions that may cause damage to the intermediate bulk container in handling.

(ii) The outer packaging must be secured to any detachable pallet to ensure stability in handling and transportation. Where a detachable pallet is used, its top surface must be free from sharp protrusions that might damage the intermediate bulk container.

(iii) Strengthening devices, such as timber supports to increase stacking performance, may be used but must be external to the inner receptacle.

(iv) The load-bearing surfaces of intermediate bulk containers intended for stacking must be designed to distribute loads in a stable manner. An intermediate bulk container intended for stacking must be designed so that loads are not supported by the inner receptacle.

(6) Intermediate IBCs of type 31HZ2 must be limited to a capacity of not more than 1,250 liters.

[Amdt. 178–103, 59 FR 38068, July 26, 1994, as amended by Amdt. 178–119, 62 FR 24743, May 6, 1997]

§ 178.708 Standards for fiberboard intermediate bulk containers.

(a) The provisions of this section apply to fiberboard intermediate bulk containers intended to contain solids that are loaded or discharged by gravity. Fiberboard intermediate bulk containers are designated: 11G.

(b) Definitions for fiberboard intermediate bulk container types:

(1) *Fiberboard intermediate bulk containers* consist of a fiberboard body with or without separate top and bottom caps, appropriate service and structural equipment, and if necessary an inner liner (but no inner packaging).

(2) *Liner* means a separate tube or bag, including the closures of its open-

ings, inserted in the body but not forming an integral part of it.

(c) Construction requirements for fiberboard intermediate bulk containers are as follows:

(1) Top lifting devices are prohibited in fiberboard intermediate bulk containers.

(2) Fiberboard intermediate bulk containers must be constructed of strong, solid or double-faced corrugated fiberboard (single or multiwall) that is appropriate to the capacity of the outer packaging and its intended use. Water resistance of the outer surface must be such that the increase in mass, as determined in a test carried out over a period of 30 minutes by the Cobb method of determining water absorption, is not greater than 155 grams per square meter (0.0316 pounds per square foot see ISO 535–1976(E)). Fiberboard must have proper bending qualities. Fiberboard must be cut, creased without cutting through any thickness of fiberboard, and slotted so as to permit assembly without cracking, surface breaks, or undue bending. The fluting of corrugated fiberboard must be firmly glued to the facings.

(i) The walls, including top and bottom, must have a minimum puncture resistance of 15 Joules (11 foot-pounds of energy) measured according to ISO 3036, incorporated by reference in § 171.7 of this subchapter.

(ii) Manufacturers' joints in the bodies of intermediate bulk containers must be made with an appropriate overlap and be taped, glued, stitched with metal staples or fastened by other means at least equally effective. Where joints are made by gluing or taping, a water-resistant adhesive must be used. Metal staples must pass completely through all pieces to be fastened and be formed or protected so that any inner liner cannot be abraded or punctured by them.

(3) The strength of the material used and the construction of the liner must be appropriate to the capacity of the intermediate bulk container and the intended use. Joints and closures must be sift-proof and capable of withstanding pressures and impacts liable to occur under normal conditions of handling and transport.

(4) Any integral pallet base forming part of an intermediate bulk container, or any detachable pallet, must be suitable for the mechanical handling of an intermediate bulk container filled to its maximum permissible gross mass.

(i) The pallet or integral base must be designed to avoid protrusions that may cause damage to the intermediate bulk container in handling.

(ii) The outer packaging must be secured to any detachable pallet to ensure stability in handling and transport. Where a detachable pallet is used, its top surface must be free from sharp protrusions that might damage the intermediate bulk container.

(iii) Strengthening devices, such as timber supports to increase stacking performance, may be used but must be external to the inner liner.

(iv) The load-bearing surfaces of intermediate bulk containers intended for stacking must be designed to distribute loads in a stable manner.

§ 178.709 Standards for wooden intermediate bulk containers.

(a) The provisions in this section apply to wooden intermediate bulk containers intended to contain solids that are loaded or discharged by gravity. Wooden intermediate bulk container types are designated:

(1) 11C Natural wood with inner liner.

(2) 11D Plywood with inner liner.

(3) 11F Reconstituted wood with inner liner.

(b) Definitions for wooden intermediate bulk containers:

(1) *Wooden intermediate bulk containers* consist of a rigid or collapsible wooden body together with an inner liner (but no inner packaging) and appropriate service and structural equipment.

(2) *Liner* means a separate tube or bag, including the closures of its openings, inserted in the body but not forming an integral part of it.

(c) Construction requirements for wooden intermediate bulk containers are as follows:

(1) Top lifting devices are prohibited in wooden intermediate bulk containers.

(2) The strength of the materials used and the method of construction must be appropriate to the capacity and in-

tended use of the intermediate bulk container.

(i) Natural wood used in the construction of an intermediate bulk container must be well-seasoned, commercially dry, and free from defects that would materially lessen the strength of any part of the intermediate bulk container. Each intermediate bulk container part must consist of uncut wood or a piece equivalent in strength and integrity. Intermediate bulk container parts are equivalent to one piece when a suitable method of glued assembly is used (i.e., a Lindermann joint, tongue and groove joint, ship lap or rabbet joint, or butt joint with at least two corrugated metal fasteners at each joint, or when other methods at least equally effective are used). Materials other than natural wood may be used for the construction of structural equipment of the outer packaging.

(ii) Plywood used in construction of bodies must be at least 3-ply. Plywood must be made of well-seasoned, rotary-cut, sliced or sawn veneer, commercially dry, and free from defects that would materially lessen the strength of the body. All adjacent plies must be glued with water-resistant adhesive. Materials other than plywood may be used for the construction of structural equipment of the outer packaging.

(iii) Reconstituted wood used in construction of bodies must be water resistant reconstituted wood such as hardboard or particle board. Materials other than reconstituted wood may be used for the construction of structural equipment of the outer packaging.

(iv) Wooden intermediate bulk containers must be firmly nailed or secured to corner posts or ends or be assembled by similar devices.

(3) The strength of the material used and the construction of the liner must be appropriate to the capacity of the intermediate bulk container and its intended use. Joints and closures must be sift-proof and capable of withstanding pressures and impacts liable to occur under normal conditions of handling and transportation.

(4) Any integral pallet base forming part of an intermediate bulk container, or any detachable pallet, must be suitable for the mechanical handling of an